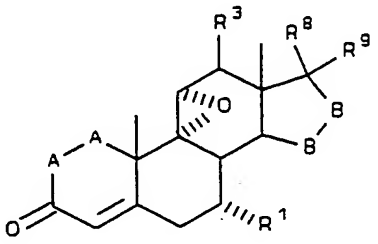
PROCESSES FOR PREPARATION OF 9,11-EPOXY STEROIDS AND INTERMEDIATES USEFUL THEREIN

Abstract of the Disclosure

Multiple novel reaction schemes, novel process steps and novel intermediates are provided for the synthesis of epoxymexrenone and other compounds of Formula I



I

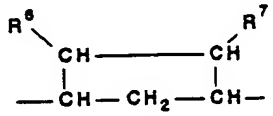
wherein:

-A-A- represents the group $-CHR^4-CHR^5-$ or $-CR^4=CR^5-$

R^3, R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, cyano, aryloxy,

R^1 represents an alpha-oriented lower alkoxycarbonyl or hydroxyalkyl radical,

-B-B- represents the group $-CHR^6-CHR^7-$ or an alpha- or beta- oriented group:



III

where R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, lower alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, and

R^8 and R^9 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, lower alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, or R^8 and R^9 together comprise a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring structure, or R^8 or R^9 together with R^6 or R^7 comprise a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring structure fused to the pentacyclic D ring.